

STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene 300 W. Preston Street, Suite 202, Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

Office of Preparedness & Response

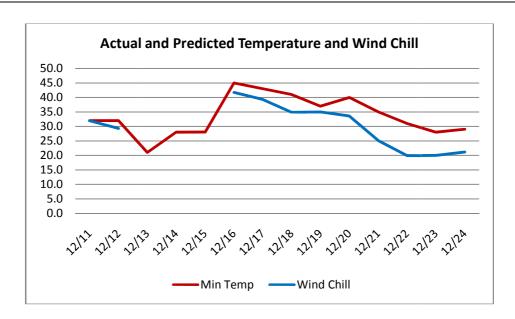
Sherry Adams, R.N., C.P.M, Director Isaac P. Ajit, M.D., M.P.H., Deputy Director

Weekly Cold-related Illness Surveillance Report

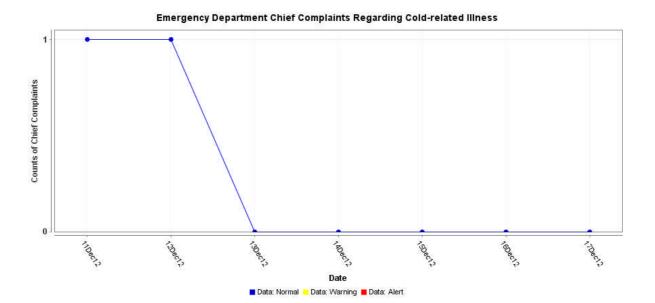
December 18, 2012 Reporting for December 11, 2012 through December 17, 2012

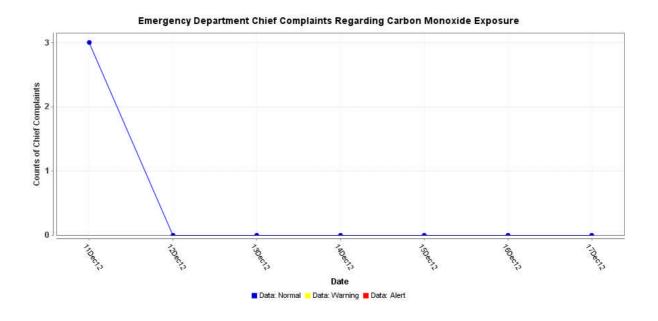
National Weather Service Forecast: No cold-related warnings or alerts

Wind Chill Advisories Declared This Week: 0
Total Wind Chill Advisories Declared: 0



Note: Wind Chill is only calculated for temperatures below 50 °F and wind speeds above 3 mph

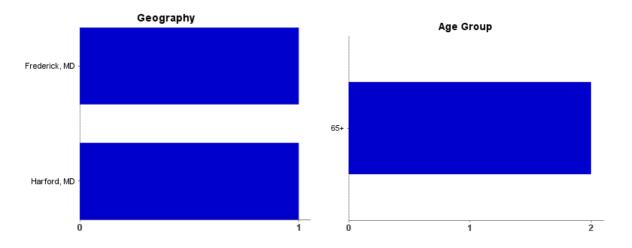




Date	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Cold-related Illnesses	Number of Chief Complaints Regarding Carbon Monoxide Exposure
December 11	1	3
December 12	1	0
December 13	0	0
December 14	0	0
December 15	0	0
December 16	0	0
December 17	0	0

There was one chief complaint cluster regarding carbon monoxide (CO) Exposure identified during the week. Information on this cluster has been forwarded to the local health department for follow-up. Clusters identified are the result of multiple individuals reporting to the same, or nearby, hospitals in a relatively short time period. Individual cases of CO poisoning may not be referred to the Local Health Department. However, the identification of clusters may indicate a larger problem and are referred to the Local Health Department.

Geographical and Age Group Distribution of Emergency Department Chief Complaints Regarding Cold-related Illnesses for December 4 through December 10, 2012



There are no reported hypothermia deaths so far this winter.

Wind Chill Advisory/Warning Criteria: The National Weather Service issues a Wind Chill Advisory for projected wind chill factors of -5°F to -20°F, and a Wind Chill Warning when the projected wind chill is for -20° or less. ¹

Note: The cold report will be released on Tuesdays, with the reporting period being the previous Tuesday through Monday.

Prepared by: Zachary Faigen, MSPH

Biosurveillance Epidemiologist Office of Preparedness and Response Maryland Department of Health & Mental Hygiene 300 W. Preston Street, Suite 202 Baltimore, MD 21201

Office: 410-767-6745

Email: zachary.faigen@maryland.gov

Joseph H. Annelli, MS
Special Projects Coordinator
Office of Preparedness and Response
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
300 W. Preston Street, Suite 202
Raltimora, MD 21201

Baltimore, MD 21201 Office: 410.767.6201

Email: joseph.annelli@maryland.gov

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¹ NWS Wind Chill Factor Chart: <u>http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/windchill/</u>